

Growth Management Oversight Commission

March 22, 2007
6:00 p.m.

Conference Room
Ken Lee Building

MINUTES

GMOC MEMBERS PRESENT: Garcia, Krogh, Palma, Jones, O'Neill, Clayton, Hall

GMOC MEMBERS ABSENT: Little, Acerro

STAFF MEMBERS

Frank Herrera-A, Principal Planner
Stan Donn, Senior Planner
Maria Kachadoorian, Dir. Finance Dept.
Tiffany Allen, Budget & Analysis
Evelyn Ong, Finance Dept
Ed Chew, Police Dept.
Karin Schmerler, Police Dept.
Anthony Chukwudolue, Eng. Dept.
Brendan Reed, Conservation & Env
Rabbia Phillip, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman O'Neill asked for the roll call, Frank Herrera-A complied. The Chairman asked for a motion to excuse Commissioner Little's absence, moved by Commissioner Palma and seconded by commissioner Clayton and approved. Chairman O'Neill moved to not excuse Commissioner Acerro's absence based on her choice to attend another meeting; seconded by Commissioner Hall and approved.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was pointed out that the minutes were omitted from the packets, therefore Chairman O'Neill moved the meeting along to invite Mr. Ed Batchelder to address the group on an item that was not on the agenda.

Mr. Batchelder informed the commission that a Zoning Text Amendment, called the "Cummings Initiative" was to be put to the Planning Commission and the Council in the near future. He gave some historical information and explanation of the topic. He stated what the proposed amendment will seek to accomplish and gave some perspective on the impact to western Chula Vista. He offered to have copies available which the commissioners were welcome to request and put on the agenda for the next meeting if they wanted to discuss.

Commissioner Hall informed the Chairman that he would have to leave at 7.00 p.m.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public intending to present.

4. RESPONSE TO COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES

Air Quality Mr. Brendan Reed from the Office of Conservation and Environment greeted the Commission and stated that he was here to assist with any questions raised from the questionnaire. Frank Herrera-A informed the commissioners that this matter will be addressed and the questions left blank will be responded to at the next meeting, since all of the required information is not available.

Fiscal The Director of the Finance Department, Ms. Kachadoorian, was present to furnish any information and answer commissioners' questions from the questionnaire. Ms. Kachadoorian responded to a question by stating that the City's reserve is at the level according to Council policy of 8%. Chairman O'Neill commented that the pension structure/program for police or fire staff should be revised to avoid a situation in the future of having more benefits being paid out than is being contributed into the plan, ie a shift from Defined Benefit to Defined contribution. Ms. Kachadoorian stated that it was one of the elements of the City's fiscal health being addressed by the independent financial review consultant. Commissioner Hall commented that he had raised concerns about the reserve monies since October, 2006 and noted that the transfer of funds to balance the budget was not stated on the report.

Commissioner Palma stated that as a long-time resident and volunteer in the City he can attest to the City's ability to stay afloat and not be "stuck" and he commended the present staff with high level of capability to serve the residents well. Ms. Kachadoorian agreed with the historical view and informed that the department is working with the consultant, Mr. Walter Kieser on the forecast. It was also noted that there is overall legitimacy of the expended funds as well as review by agencies and BIA which equate to a high degree of transparency.

5. RESPONSE TO REFERRAL QUESTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A) Parks & Recreation The Chairman asked how the information was gathered to determine the most used park, Mr. Gamble replied that a phone survey of City residents was the tool. Commissioner Hall pointed out that a great number of non-residents use our parks on weekends as well and that would not be accounted for with such a polling.

B) Chula Vista Elementary School District Frank Herrera-A read the responses from the District on questions #4, #8 and #16, which was emailed to staff. There were no further questions raised.

6. CC / PC REFERRALS FROM JUNE 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Police Ed Chew addressed the department's response times and its' comparison to other cities, pointed out that San Diego's was higher. The Chairman reiterated his position that the thresholds should be reviewed, commented that response times should not be the only benchmark as it could be improved with more stations or men, but those came with a cost, so it had to be determined if that was cost equivalent. Commissioner Hall noted that the statistics should be adjusted to report by "on duty" officers. He also noted that there was a perceived imbalance between the eastern and western parts of the City, to which Mr. Chew responded that the topic was under review. Commissioner Krogh suggested that benchmarking with other jurisdictions could be added into next year's review.

Commissioner Palma commented on the good performance of the Police Department, pointing out that there are officers present, en force, when they are needed. He also mentioned that the apprehension rate of criminals is high in Chula Vista, partially indicated by the lack of "still at large" news notices.

Sewer Anthony Chukwudolue, Civil Engineer with the Engineering Dept. presented the City's ongoing study with Sweetwater Authority and Otay Water District regarding the location of a Recycled Water treatment plant to serve the South Bay area by 2025. Issues being addressed in the study were how to handle low demand period and the needs on the eastern side of the city. In response to a comment, Mr. Chukwudolue stated that the agencies were not open to ground water recharge, this could change as things progress. It was also pointed out that Point Loma charges higher rates for higher capacity and higher densities. There were no further questions so the Chairman thanked Mr. Chukwudolue for his time/input.

Frank Herrera-A informed that he would be making the comments on the next two items.

Traffic He stated that he had discussion with Beth Chopp in the Engineering Department, who indicated that the issue on roadway repair and maintenance will be going to the Council on April 5th at a workshop, at which they will determine how to proceed.

Air Quality Frank informed that he was having discussions with some staff members on how to address the CO2 issue and metrics. The group of staff persons will analyze and evaluate the LEEDs rating system and create a program to coordinate the City's needs to it. They will have to

compile a report to be presented to the GMOC and the Council to ascertain funding sources for western Chula Vista. Frank pointed out that this would take two to three months to accomplish before going to Council, etc. and could be ready for next year's review process.

7. COMMISSIONER AND STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Krogh asked staff if there was some short list or formatted document comprising the issues raised from the report by Council at the joint workshop. Frank presented a prepared document which staff used to address the issues, and the secretary made copies for the commissioners. After some discussion, Frank indicated he had some information on LEEDs which he would send to the Commissioners. He also stated that staff will be reviewing how to make the incorporating of these green-building criteria voluntary rather than mandatory to home owners; funding sources have to be identified as well for this program.

Commissioner Jones made the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Krogh and the Chairman deferred the approval of the minutes of 03/08/07 to the next meeting. Frank stated that there was an email from Commissioner Little which was not addressed, the Chairman instructed the secretary to note the comments in the "Fiscal" section. Commissioner Krogh commented that #2 of the email was covered by the Director of Finance in her talk.

Frank informed the commissioners that there was the adoption of the Climate Protection Program, resolution #206-303, which instructs local jurisdictions to be responsible for air quality.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman O'Neill adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m. to the next meeting scheduled for April 05, 2007. Motion made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner O'Neill.

Rabbia Phillip
Secretary

Frank J. Herrera-A
Growth Management Coordinator

Approved _____ 04/05/07 SP/RH _____